

March 17th, 2010

Testimony of Douglas Bowie, ATC

RE: RSB 456, "An Act Concerning Student Athletes and Concussions."

Good Afternoon Senator Gaffey, Representative Fleischman and members of the Education Committee. My name is Douglas Bowie, and I am a Certified Athletic Trainer practicing in the State of Connecticut. In my current role as an Athletic Trainer and Administrator, I supervise more than a dozen Athletic Trainers throughout various Connecticut towns, with exposure to over 10,000 Student Athletes. It is those Student Athletes that will certainly benefit from the passing of this bill. The processes and procedures so carefully laid out in the language of this bill will help the State of Connecticut step to the forefront in the protection of its young athletes from the potentially life long and catastrophic ramifications of head injuries that can be incurred during participation in sport. Having seen first hand the signs, symptoms, and difficulties that can result from concussions I know that this legislation is sorely needed to ensure the safety of our Childhood and Adolescent Athletes in Connecticut.

I thank you for your time and attention today, and for your effort on behalf of your constituents in supporting this bill.

Sincerely,

Douglas Bowie, ATC